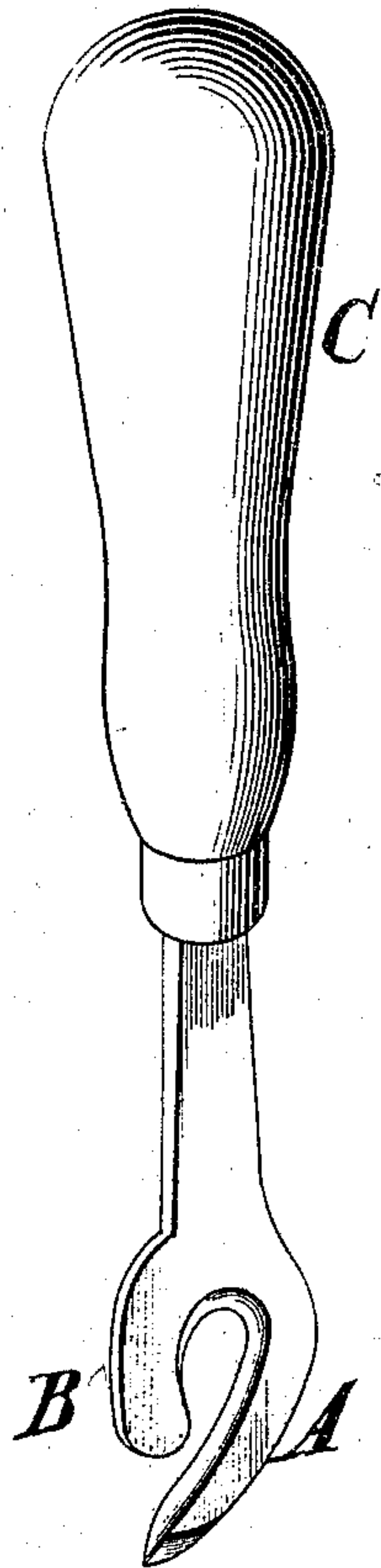


G. L. WITSIL.  
CAN-OPENER,

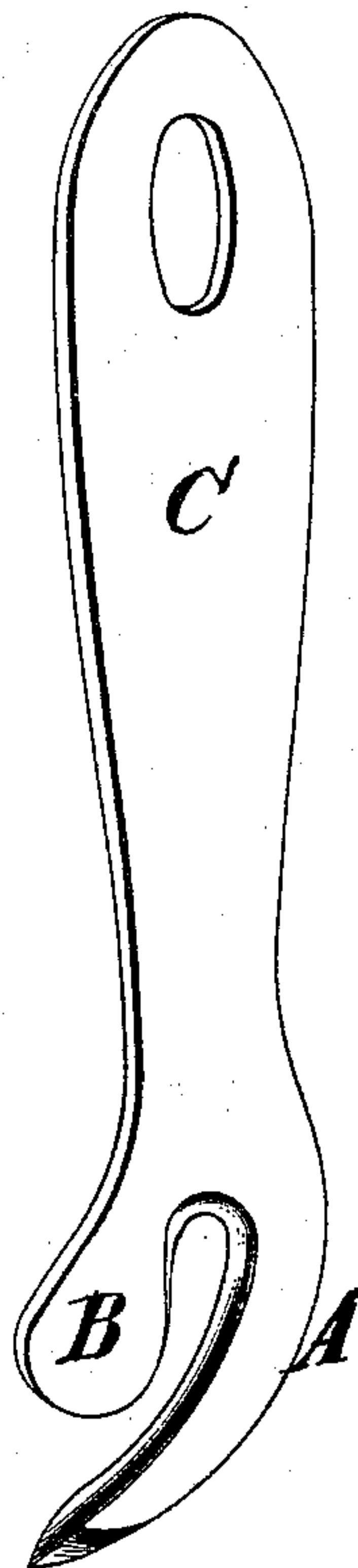
No. 171,463.

Patented Dec. 21, 1875.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Witnesses.*  
*A. Ruppert,*  
*D. P. Crowl*

*G. L. Witsil*  
*Inventor.*  
*D. P. Holloway & Co.*  
*Atty.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE L. WITSIL, OF BEVERLY, NEW JERSEY.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CAN-OPENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **171,463**, dated December 21, 1875; application filed October 18, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE L. WITSIL, of Burlington, in the county of Burlington and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Can-Openers, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to that class of can-openers in which the cutting-blade is overhanging in part by an arm, the end of which constitutes the fulcrum of the blade in cutting. My improvement consists in giving to this fulcrum-arm a rounded end, constituting a cam, so that in cutting the fulcrum-arm will roll on the can and cause the blade to operate with a draw-cut, the said blade and fulcrum-arm being struck up or formed from a single piece of metal.

In the annexed drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved can-opener as attached to a wooden handle. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the same as made in one piece with an iron handle.

The drawing clearly represents the construction of my improved can-opener, A referring to the curved blade, B to the fulcrum-arm, and C to the handle. The blade and fulcrum-arm are fashioned out of the same piece of steel, or constitute, at least, a single piece of metal, either provided with a shank for the attachment of a wooden handle or terminating in a bar, which itself will form a handle. The

fulcrum-arm, being flat and standing in line with the blade, terminates in a round end or head, as clearly shown, beyond which the point of the blade projects a little distance, so that it may be used to punch a hole in the can preparatory to cutting it open. It will be observed that by reason of the rounded or cam-shaped head of the fulcrum-arm the blade must operate with a draw-cut. This feature, which is obviously a very desirable one, since it greatly facilitates the operation of cutting tin cans, I do not claim as broadly new with me, but only when taken in connection with the peculiar construction of the opener as a whole.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

As a new article of manufacture the herein-described can-opener, which is composed of a single piece of metal, and in which the point of the blade projects beyond the fulcrum-arm, and the latter terminates in a cam-shaped head standing in line with said blade.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GEO. L. WITSIL.

Witnesses:

JOS. T. K. PLANT,  
D. P. HOLLOWAY.